

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#39/1
7/7/00

In re Application of

KADNER et al.

Appln. No. 08/958,865

Filed: October 27, 1997

For: THE PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ALUMINUM OXIDE BEADS



Group Art Unit: 1754

Examiner: G. Straub

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June 30, 2000

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 30, 2000, kindly amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 19-27, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following claims:

28. Method for producing microspheres by means of vibration-stimulated dripping of liquid through a plurality of openings of a nozzle plate, the droplets taking on a spherical shape while falling through a first free-fall section and then, in a second free-fall section, being exposed to a reaction gas to produce gelling, thereafter falling into a reaction liquid which may possess a foam layer, in which the same quantity of liquid passes through each opening of the nozzle plate per unit time; that the falling droplets form an envelope around